

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Abstract (page 93) with the following amended Abstract:

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a ~~method/system~~ technique for authenticating a ~~media~~ and/or data stored on the media in order to prevent piracy and/or unauthorized access and/or unauthorized copying of the data stored on the media, including CDs and DVDs. According to the present invention, a lookup table contains broken or modified modulation rules comprising one or more authentication keys or components thereof, that are derived by the table's intentional breaking of standard 8-14 and 8-16 modulation rules. The authentication keys are formed and remain hidden without being transferred in the audio/video. Additionally, the lookup table is employed using conventional hardware and/or software in CD or DVD players, ~~which may optionally be modified~~. Each output value according to the present invention is a function of the physical characteristics of a disc that does not travel with the audio or video or graphics data. Authentication systems of the present invention optionally encompass singular, multiple or multi-level authentication systems, each of which successively must be deciphered before the audio/video is finally available.